

Application No. 10/672,491

AMENDMENT TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace paragraph 0018 with the following amended paragraph:

Secondary spot cleaning system 30 is shown downstream from primary cleaning system 20 and is comprised, in this embodiment, of spot blade 31, pivot hinge 32, biasing means 33, forcing device 34 (shown in ~~Figure 2~~Figure 3), debris catch tray 35, wiper mechanism 36, and controller 41 (shown in ~~Figure 2~~Figure 3). In the embodiment shown in Figure 1, spot blade 31 is in its engaged position and is in contact with and positioned to shear agglomerations from imaging surface 10. The load on blade 31 and the angle of attack between the blade and imaging surface 10 are selected to ameliorate frictional heating from the contact between the blade and imaging surface while applying sufficient pressure to shear agglomerations from the surface. The angle of attack is typically in the range of just greater than 0 degree to approximately 9 degrees with respect to the imaging surface. Additionally, the load on the blade is selected to be relatively low, in the range of 0 to 10 gm/cm, and preferably in the range of about 5-8 gm/cm. Design of the particular angle and load are affected by such matters as the thickness and free extension of the blade from the blade holder as well as the durometer value of the material used for the blade.

Please replace paragraph 0021 with the following amended paragraph:

Referring again to Figure 1, blade 31 is shown in its engaged position. Forcing device 34 (shown in ~~Figure 2~~Figure 3) has actuated to rotate blade holder 37 around pivot point 32 from the retracted to the engaged position. Biasing mechanism 33 urges blade 31 toward the

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retracted position, but forcing device 34 has overcome the biasing force to push blade 31 into engagement. The angle of attack and the load forces upon blade 31 are optimally within the limits described above. The portion of cleaning blade 31 that provides the shearing action to the imaging surface is cleaning edge 38.

Please replace paragraph 0025 with the following amended paragraph:

Many other embodiments of the invention are possible. For instance, Figure 5 shows an alternative embodiment in which a forcing mechanism (not shown) causes cleaning blade 31 to reciprocate between engaged and retracted positions rather than pivot between such positions. In the embodiment shown, wiper mechanism 36 is located at the tip of guide baffle 44. Yet another embodiment is shown in Figure 6, where blade holder 37 remains stationary while wiper mechanism 36 is moved in a pivotal motion that allows the resiliency of ~~blade 31~~blade 94 to move cleaning edge 38 into an engaged position when wiper 36 is retracted and that pushes ~~blade 31~~blade 94 into its retracted position when wiper 36 is extended. In this embodiment, cleaning occurs when cleaning mechanism 36 is fully extended to reach cleaning edge 38.